

Arlington Historical Commission  
Minutes for the Meeting of  
Tuesday, 5 December 2017  
Whittemore-Robbins House, 7:45p.m.

1. Call to Order: Commissioners
2. Review of minutes: Reviewed minutes November 7, 2017. Approved as amended.
3. Communications Received:
  - a. Sign off requests for demolition 154-156 Brooks Avenue, 53 Lancaster Road, 21 Hutchinson Road and 246 Mountain Avenue.
  - b. Communication from neighbor of 21 Hutchinson Road concerned about the demolition of this property built in 1906 and its location next to the oldest house in Arlington.
4. Reports of other Town Boards and Historical Organizations:
  - a. Arlington Preservation Fund (Guthrie, Schaefer)-
  - b. Arlington Historical Society (Meister)- November 28, 2017 Poetry: The Serious and the Not with Miriam Levine and Chuck Kraemer at 7:30pm at the Masonic Temple. Levine, Arlington's first poet laureate, reads from her work described as "Hill-Pond haunted, garden-centered, elegiac, people-centric, celebratory." Kraemer, Arlington's leading proponent of the lowly limerick, defends himself, and sketches the long history of AABBA.
  - c. Arlington Historic Districts Commission (Robinson)-
  - d. Community Preservation Act Committee (Robinson)-

Historical Commission FY 2016 Budget – Nothing to report.

5. Projects Proceeding under Hearings and Approvals:
  - a. 3-11 Lakeview Street 4/16 Schaefer/Robinson- Stop Work Order
  - b. 47 Mystic Lake Drive 9/16 Guthrie- Work in progress.
  - c. 487 Massachusetts Avenue 5/17 Schaefer- remove as signage work is complete.
  - d. 89 Beacon Street 4/17 Schaefer- Nothing to report.
  - e. 21 Ashland Street 9/17 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
  - f. 47 Bartlett Street 9/17 Guthrie- Deleading
  - g. Signs for 444 Massachusetts Avenue, 9 Mystic Street, 454 Massachusetts Avenue, 489 Massachusetts Avenue 9/17 Schaefer-
  - h. 39 Winter Street 9/17-Preferentially Preserved- 1 year-demolition delay
  - i. 43 Winter Street 9/17-Preferentially Preserved- 1 year-demolition delay
  - j. 27 Wyman Street 10/17 Stange- No report.
6. Continuing Projects
  - a. Whittemore Robbins House (and outbuildings) Robinson/Guthrie- Nothing to report.

- a. Arlington Civic Block Garden: Robinson – No report.
- b. Education/Outreach: Robinson – No report.
- c. Historic House Markers: Nothing to report.
- d. Town Hall: No report.
- e. Web Site: Stange – No report.

## 7. Discussion and Hearings:

7:50pm Formal Hearing for 677 Massachusetts Avenue with Mehmet Sahin of Falcon Graphics. Signage for Mamadou's Artisan Bakery & Café. Beige background to match the building. Using 3-D black or dark red for lettering. move to accept signage (Pam); 2<sup>nd</sup> Eric Stange all approved.

8:00pm Formal Hearing for 458 Massachusetts Ave. with William Belen for Town Barber Shop in black and remove shadow with barber poles on either side with logo. Windows cleared of signage. Move to approve sign with black lettering and include barber poles and logo.

8:15pm Hearing for Robbins Town Hall Gardens: CPA Grant plans for the restoration of the water system. Jim Feeney, Assistant Town Manager, Danielle Desilets and Kyle Zick Landscape Architecture, Inc. and Mark Mariano, Engineer.

History of the Garden- Since August researching the gardens. Olmsted archives, correspondence from the Library of Congress. And also researched the sketchbooks from Sturges' plans for the garden. Caira and Ida in 1910 after Winfield died and dedicated in 1913. 1938 sister's engaged Olmsted working out of Brookline. Brick walkways are the same as original, Sculpture did not change, they did replace the upper basin, ripple spill way and lower basin. Added shrubs and evergreens. Completed in 1939. Did need to replace plantings that did not last the first year. Plan is to restore the water features to the Olmstead plans from 1939. Resetting all the stones, replace stepping stones, brick needs to be pulled up and replaced. Make paths accessible and ADA approved.

Mark Mariano- Engineering the system.

Documentary idea from Eric- Perhaps get a high school student to film evidence of the project.

Plans completed in April

Start work on June 1.

Complete by mid September.

Discussion: with Cordelia Dawson, Principal Architect with Aurora Custom Builders. 36 Draper Avenue. Assisting with renovation process and here to inquire about what is required for changes to the property. Beginning with interior work and perhaps an addition to the back of the house. Greatest concern is with existing Carriage House. Leaning, decayed

interior and has no foundation. Would like to keep a carriage house- replace or move to another location on the property. It is a large structure and they may also want to bring it down in scale. Will be ready for hearing in February.

The Arlington Historical Commission meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

The next Arlington Historical Commission meeting will be January 2, 2018 at 7:45pm.

For the Arlington Historical Commission, Victoria Rose, Recording Secretary.